(b) IBA has reported that though attempts are made by it to link remunerative package to performance, productivity and efficiency, the same, however, could not be translated into agreement.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration for the present.

(d) Does not arise.

Heavy Industries in Assam

*235. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) The details of heavy industries that have been set up in the North Eastern Region particularly in the State of Assam during the liberalization policy period; and

(b) The steps taken by Government to grant financial allocation to heavy industries set up in NER?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) There is no formal classification of Industry as "heavy". In so far as the Department of Heavy Industry (DHI) is concerned, no new Public Sector Enterprise has been set up in the North Eastern Region particularly in the State of Assam since the liberalization started in the year 1991. However, there are existing units under DHI namely, Andrew Yule & Co., Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd., Nagaland Pulp & Paper Mills Ltd. and Cement Corporation of India Ltd. which are located or have their units in the North Eastern region. The Government are providing budgetary support to some of the units for their capital investment programmes/working capital needs.

Pench Mega Project in Chhindwada

†*236. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:
MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have accorded its sanction for investing in Pench mega Project in Chhindwada district of Madhya Pradesh;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) if not, by when it is likely to be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) to (c) Pench Diversion Project in Chouri Tehsil of Chiindwada District of Madhya Pradesh has been discussed and approved in the 85th meeting of Technical Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources held on 22nd February, 2006 The Planning Commission has also accorded investment clearance vide letter No. 2 (185)/2001-WR, dated 10th April, 2006 with some conditions. The project has been approved for Rs. 583.40 crore (2005 price level) to achieve annual irrigation of 96519 ha in 158 villages of Chhindwada and Seoni districts. The project will also provide 61.68 MCM water supply to thermal power units proposed to be constructed by Pench Power Limited under Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board.

Increase outstanding balance due to non-recovery of taxes

†*237. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that outstanding balance is continuously increasing in the country due to non-recovery of direct taxes in time;

(b) if so, the average annual growth rate of outstanding balance during the last three years; and

(c) the reasons responsible for growth of outstanding balance?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes Sir, outstanding balance of income tax demand in the country is increasing.

(b) The average annual growth of outstanding balance of income tax demand during the last three years is 17.4%. The average annual growth of Revenue Collection is 25.4%.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.